



Date | Time 11/13/2024 6:45 PM

Location NDC Library

You are made for greatness. (Pope Benedict XVI)

Location: Notre Dame Collegiate, High River

Date: November 13, 2024

Attendees: Jodi deKlerk., Jacqui Vanderfluit, Cathy Dudgeon, Adrienne Maerz, Sherrylee SL S., Lyndsay Sager, Wynter Brown, Mavel Predas.

Regrets: Rob Maerz, Mark MacDonald, Nancy Barton, Terri Walker, Sara Jerke

I. OPENING PRAYER AND CALL TO ORDER

Notre Dame Collegiate School Council meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m. on November 13, 2024.

II. ADDITIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mavel P. from HSA/Filipino community, to add some information on community engagement.

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Adoption of last meeting minutes from October 9, 2024: **MOTION by SL S., CARRIED**

IV. TRUSTEE REPORT

a) Trustee report given by JdK on behalf of MM:

Meetings with the Premier and dignitaries, more to his report next meeting. Trustee MacDonald extends his regrets for not attending the meeting.

V. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

a) Jodi deKlerk, Principal of Notre Dame, gave her report:

- Father Marius has been visiting classes this month offering Mass.
- Spirit week this week at the school. Student council has dress-up and activities planned. Mr. Reid has done an amazing job planning this year's Volleyball Zones. There are 16

teams competing in the tournament, over the week and weekend. Jodi has organized the concession, offering many delicious options.

- Throughout this month, refresher courses on how to incorporate more of the Catholic teachings and Faith within the school body have started. This will be hopefully encouraging to teachers as they look ahead to the rest of the year.
- PAT and Diploma analysis has begun, results from June. The staff have been reviewing collected information and will be writing up reports as a reflective learning tool.
- There has been ongoing discussion about the use of AI. Although AI can be a great tool, it is a double-edged sword. Can students be responsible in using AI? There are ongoing issues with misuse by higher grade students, submitting reports only using AI. Administration does have a program called Backdraft which enables them to see how quickly reports have been generated. The students still need to know how to use correct writing techniques. This will be an ongoing discussion with updates as it progresses.
- FCSS has donated grocery gift cards – towards supporting families and children of NDC. No frills also donated fruit for the lunch program. Grant money has been put toward snack pack on Fridays. Take home lunch program has been successful for students to go home with a healthy lunch on Sat/Sun, the board office organizes this program.

VI. CHAIR REPORT:

- a) Jacqui V., interim chair, gave an update from ward meeting:

There is a Ward meeting which usually runs 2x a year. This year's meeting was attended by JV. Attendees from the community throughout the Ward, NDC, HSA reps, and students were also present. A consultation attachment included by JV.

VII. TREASURERS REPORT:

- a) Wynter B. gives her report: We will be required to change signatures on our account with BMO. Wynter will call and see what is required to have these changes put into effect. Jackie W, Jessica N., Grace S. were the past signatory authorities; they will be removed and the new executive signatures added. **MOTION** made by AM to add Wynter B., Lindsay S., Jacqui V. as signing authorities; **CARRIED**
- b) Jackie W., past Chair still has the cheque book. Arrangements will be made to reach out to Jackie W. for transition.
- c) JV to submit the receipt for the Halloween Chocolate. Stayed under budget: Receipt amount \$172.12

VIII. FAITH LESSON:

- a) Cathy D., faith and teacher rep, presented this evening's faith lesson. The lesson continues through Catholic social teaching and this Nov/Dec is focused on the needs of the most vulnerable groups in our community. As a school, the student body and staff should be made aware about the importance of social justice. Cathy reiterates that we will not be perfect when students or staff make assumptions about marginalized groups. We all have capacity to learn and reflect on our views about underrepresented groups. Every group should be treated with dignity and respect. This, in turn, will bring joy when we do things for

the common good. Transform our thinking and really learn the causes of marginalization – why are marginalized groups treated adversely? Why are they discriminated against? Magic of Christmas should be spread, and these questions are good food for thought during this holiday season. How can students help? Students and families may consider donating time to help vulnerable organizations and this, in turn, will educate our students, why some underrepresented groups experience disparaging challenges including food insecurity, insufficient clothing etc. Financial disparity is only one aspect; social and emotional inequity should be kept in our prayers as well as we reflect this holiday season and beyond. How we treat people in need, is how we are seen by our Lord. All people are made in the likeness and image of God.

IX. COUNCIL BUSINESS:

- a) Election for Chair: Lindsay S. has put her name forward for the Chair position. **MOTION** to nominate LS for Chair by SL S.; **CARRIED**. Lindsay has subsequently resigned her position as secretary.
MOTION to nominate Adrienne Maerz as secretary by JV; **CARRIED**.
- b) **MOTION by JV to Ratify executive council, SC Board and members at large:** Chair, Lindsay Sager; Vice Chair Jacqui Vanderfluit; Treasurer, Wynter Brown; Secretary, Adrienne Maerz; Trustee, Parent Board Members: Terri Walker, Sara Jerke, SL S, Mavel Predas, and Christiane Kowich. Rob Maerz has resigned with regrets. Community / Parish Representative: Nancy Barton; Faith/Teacher Representative: Cathy Dungeon; Trustee Representative: Mark MacDonald ; Jody deKlerk Principal /Parent Representative **CARRIED**.
- c) Fundraising update: SL S. updated us on table rentals, we do not have tables available to us so if we were to rent them, it would be at a cost of \$857. Wynter can check at HSA approx. 12, and the church may have tables; we need to organize sourcing of these if we are to move ahead.
Dec 13th date for craft sale; we will need to post this on Facebook, school site, and send home a sheet with each student. After discussion it was agreed to table this craft sale discussion until May/June for organizing purposes, and be more prepared for Christmas 2025. If we sold tables in October of 2025, then we may be able to plan a little better for the sale in December. JdK suggested that she could include this information with her August newsletter and send out an email in September as well. All were in favor of postponement and to be discussed again at the spring meeting.
- d) Holiday hampers initiative: WB gives us some information about how the program was started. HSA started a summer snack hamper program which evolved into a Christmas hamper program with a community engagement Grant from Foresters, in the amount of \$2000 to use for non-perishable food items only. Principal Schreiber initiated this with HSA school council and also donated funds. JdK has also donated \$2000 to match the grant from Foresters and HSA.
We will require some help to pack these hampers, and Foresters have a strict stipulation for their grant, including a minimum of 10 volunteers and only non-perishable items; we will have to make sure that we have other boxes for perishable items, gift cards, or gifts. This food packing will take place on Dec 16 at 4 p.m. at HSA and will be disturbed on Dec 19/20th

for pick -up from Francis de Sales. At the moment there are approximately 65 families that have applied for hampers. JdK suggested that NDC students could volunteer with wrapping boxes for the hampers. Friday Dec 13th after school. NDC students will be able to sign up for volunteering thru a website, LS will send the link that HSA uses. Sobey's and Coop also to donate gift cards and SL S. will ask Nancy B. to keep a donation box at the church.

Mavel an HSA parent is also doing up some spring rolls for sale, donating \$10 per order to the hamper as well.

- e) ASCE grant brainstorming/review of historical events: examples of how we can use these funds included workshops, info sessions, and courses on cyber bullying; multicultural/Indigenous events, allowing for payment of conference fees or trainers. There should be a focus on parent learning and engagement. Funds cannot be used for food, entertainment, capital assets, activities that have already taken place, payment of staff, gifts, dances, or performances.

Mavel from the Filipino community in High River suggests that we may want to host an evening or event personally inviting, people from the Filipino community to come and engage with parents and students alike. JdK could possibly attend a Filipino society organization meeting, reaching out their board members, to see what sort of needs these parents require. Thoughts of potentially hosting a festival in March, which we could tie into racism awareness month.

- f) Growing smiles spring floral fundraiser: HSA fundraising society does not want to run this fundraiser anymore; JV has thought that we could use this as a fundraiser for School council; it is easy to run but we would need to have a purpose for this fundraising money. JdK is able to apply for a special license if we are raising money for a group in need. Could generate \$1000-1500

MOTION by SL S to allow JV to set up the growing smiles fundraiser; **CARRIED**

X. NEXT MEETING/CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT:

Next meeting on January 8, 2025, at 6:45 p.m.

Closing prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.